GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

PUBLIC SERVANTS - Registration and Stamps - Surprise check conducted by ACB over the office of Joint Sub Registrar, Ranasthalam on 31.07.2019 - Allegations of misconduct - Departmental action Initiated under Rule 9 of Andhra Pradesh Revised Pension Rules, 1980 against Sri S.Rajeswara Rao, Former Joint Sub-Registrar, Ranasthalam, Srikakulam (Retd. on 30.6.2020) - Articles of Charge framed Orders - Issued.

REVENUE (VIGILANCE-II) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Rt.No.586 Dated:24-09-2021
Read:-

G.O.Ms.No.155, Revenue (Vig.II) Department, Dated.05.07.2021.

&

ORDER:

In pursuance of the sanction accorded by the Government under Sub Clause (i) of Clause (b) of Sub Rule (2) of Rule 9 of the Andhra Pradesh Revised Pension Rules, 1980 for instituting departmental proceedings against Sri S.Rajeswara Rao, Former Joint Sub-Registrar, Ranasthalam, Srikakulam, vide reference read above, it is considered necessary to hold an inquiry against the said Sri S.Rajeswara Rao, Former Joint Sub-Registrar, Ranasthalam, Srikakulam (Retd. on 30.6.2020) in accordance with the procedure laid down in Rule 20 of the Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (Classification, Control & Appeal) Rules, 1991.

2. The substance of the imputation of misconduct or misbehaviour in respect of which the inquiry is proposed to be held is set out in the enclosed statement of articles of charge (Annexure-I) and the imputation of misconduct or misbehaviour in support of each article of charge is enclosed (Annexure-II). A list of documents by which and a list of witnesses by whom the articles of charge are proposed to be sustained are also enclosed (Annexures-III and IV).

3. Sri S.Rajeswara Rao, Former Joint Sub-Registrar, Ranasthalam, Srikakulam (Retd. on 30.6.2020) is directed to submit, within seven (7) days of the receipt of this Order, a written statement of his defence.

4. Sri S.Rajeswara Rao, Former Joint Sub-Registrar, Ranasthalam, Srikakulam (Retd. on 30.6.2020) is informed that an inquiry will be held only in respect of those articles of charge as are not admitted. He should, therefore, specifically admit or deny each article of charge.

5. Sri S.Rajeswara Rao, Former Joint Sub-Registrar, Ranasthalam, Srikakulam (Retd. on 30.6.2020) is further informed that if he does not submit his written statement of defence on or before the time specified in para 3 above, or otherwise fails or refuses to comply with the provisions of Rule 20 of the Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules, 1991 or the orders / directions issued in pursuance of the said rules, the Inquiring Authority may hold the inquiry against him ex-parte.

6. Attention of Sri S.Rajeswara Rao, Former Joint Sub-Registrar, Ranasthalam, Srikakulam (Retd. on 30.6.2020) is invited to Rule 24 of the Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1964 under which no Government servant shall bring or attempt to bring any political or outside influence to bear upon any superior authority to further their interests in respect of matters pertaining to their service under Government. If any representation is received on his behalf from another person in respect of any matter dealt within these proceedings, it will be presumed that he is aware of such a representation and that it has been made at his instance and action will be taken against him for violation of Rule 24 of the Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1964.

(P.T.O)

7. The receipt of this order may be acknowledged.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

RAJAT BHARGAVA
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To

Sri S.Rajeswara Rao, Former Joint Sub-Registrar, Ranasthalam, Srikakulam (Retd. on 30.6.2020) (Enclosed Annexures I to IV) through the Commissioner & Inspector General, Registration & Stamps, Andhra Pradesh, Vijayawada. (with a request to serve the order on the individual and send the served copy with dated signature to Government).

The Commissioner & Inspector General, Registration & Stamps, Andhra Pradesh, Eedupugallu, Vijayawada, Krishna District.

Copy to:

The Director General, Anti Corruption Bureau, Pandit Nehru Bus Station, NTR Administrative Block, 2nd Floor, Andhra Pradesh, Vijayawada.

The Deputy Inspector General, Registration & Stamps, Srikakulam District.

SF / SC

//FORWARDED:: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER

ANNEXURE –I

STATEMENT OF ARTICLES OF CHARGES FRAMED AGAINST SRI SURUMALLA RAJESWARA RAO, JOINT SUB REGISTRAR, RANASTHALAM, SRIKAKULAM DISTRICT IN 01/SC-ACB/SKL/2019 OF ACB, SRIKAKULAM RANGE.

Sri Surumalla Rajeswara Rao, S/o late Sanjeeva Rao, 59 years, Joint Sub Registrar, Ranasthalam, Srikakulam District (here-in-after referred as Government Servant) (Now retired) while functioning as such during the period between 05.07.2019 to 31.07.2019 (till the date of surprise check) committed grave misconduct in as much as:

CHARGE-I :-

That the Government Servant (now retired) in abuse of his official position demanded and accepted bribe amount of Rs.34,050/- through one private person namely Sri U.Srinivasa Rao @ Sharukh Khan from the general public which was seized from the possession of Sri U.Srinivasa Rao @ Sharukh Khan and an amount of Rs.36,000/- seized from the possession of document writers, who came to SRO office to handover the collected mamools (bribe amount) to Sri U.Srinivasa Rao @ Sharukh khan to hand over the same to Sub-Registrar and the above same was found by the ACB officials on the date of surprise check proceedings conducted on 31.07.2019 which was commenced from 3.30 P.M. to concluded at 8 P.M. at the office of Joint Sub Registrar, Ranasthalam, Srikakulam District.

CHARGE-II :-

That the Government Servant (now retired) Joint Sub Registrar, Ranasthalam connived with other officials and allowed document writers for doing illegal acts i.e., collecting mamools from the public who came for registration etc and an amount of Rs.36,000/- was seized from the possession of the document writers, who were found inside of the Sub-Registrar office which was collected by them from the general public who came for registration of their properties and the document writers used to hand over the collected mamools to Sri U.Srinivasa Rao @ Sharukh Khan, Private Assistant of SRO to hand over the same to Sub-Registrar and his staff and the above same was found by the ACB officials on the date of surprise check proceedings conducted on 31.07.2019 which was commenced from 3.30 P.M. to concluded at 8 P.M. at the office of Joint Sub Registrar, Ranasthalam, Srikakulam District.

CHARGE-III :-

That the Government Servant (now retired) unauthorizedly employed one person Sri U.Srinivasa Rao @ Sharukh Khan, to work in his office and entrusted Sri U. Srinivasa Rao @ Sharukh Khan, to collect mamools on his behalf from document writers, who collect the same from the persons who come to Registrar Office for registrations and etc works, without any permission from the concerned authorities and the above same was found by the ACB officials on the date of surprise check proceedings conducted on 31.07.2019 which was commenced from 3.30 P.M. to concluded at 8 P.M. at the office of Joint Sub Registrar, Ranasthalam, Srikakulam District.

Thus, Sri Surumalla Rajeswara Rao, S/o late Sanjeeva Rao, 59 years, Joint Sub Registrar, Ranasthalam, Srikakulam District by his above mentioned acts exhibited lack of devotion to duty, failed to maintain integrity, behaved in a manner unbecoming of a Government Servant and brought down the prestige of the Government and thereby violated/contravened Rule 3(1) & (2) of A.P.Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1964 r/w Rules 9 of AP Revised Pension Rules, 1980.

RAJAT BHARGAVA
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

//FORWARDED:: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER

ANNEXURE-II

STATEMENT OF IMPUTATION OF MISCONDUCT IN SUPPORT OF ARTICLE OF CHARGES FRAMED AGAINST SRI SURUMALLA RAJESWARA RAO, JOINT SUB REGISTRAR, RANASTHALAM, SRIKAKULAM DISTRICT IN 01/SC-ACB/SKL/2019 OF ACB, SRIKAKULAM RANGE.

Sri Surumalla Rajeswara Rao, S/o late Sanjeeva Rao is a native of Dimili village, Rambilli Mandal, Visakhapatnam District. His date of birth is 20.06.1960. He joined in the Government Service on 06.04.1982 as Attender. On consequent promotions, he rose to the rank of Sub Registrar on 28.06.2012 and worked in the same capacity at RO, Srikakulam, SRO, Ponduru and Ranasthalam. He retired from service on 30.06.2020 on attaining the age of superannuation. He is hereinafter referred to as retired employee.

CHARGE-I:

That the Government Servant (now retired) in abuse of his official position demanded and accepted bribe amount of Rs.34,050/- through one private person namely Sri U.Srinivasa Rao @ Sharukh Khan from the general public which was seized from the possession of Sri U. Srinivasa Rao @ Sharukh Khan and an amount of Rs.36,000/- seized from the possession of document writers, who came to SRO office to handover the collected mamools (bribe amount) to Sri U. Srinivasa Rao @ Sharukh khan to hand over the same to Sub-Registrar and the above same was found by the ACB officials on the date of surprise check proceedings conducted on 31.07.2019 which was commenced from 3.30 P.M. to concluded at 8 P.M. at the office of Joint Sub Registrar, Ranasthalam, Srikakulam District.

FACTS AND EVIDENCE:

On credible information that the Joint Sub-Registrar and the staff of the office of Joint Sub Registrar, Ranasthalam were indulging in corrupt practices by way of collecting bribe mamools (bribe) as commissions from the persons, who approach for registration in their office through the document writers viz., Sri Arasada Vijaya Saradhi, Sri Guggilapu Chinna Rao, Sri Rajapathruni Mouleeswara Rao, Sri Patnayakuni Dhanunjaya Rao, Sri Jallepalli Surya Prakasha Rao, Sri Meesala Rama Rao and others,on 31.07.2019, the ACB officials of Srikakulam Range conducted a surprise check of the Joint Sub-registrar office, Ranastalam in the presence of 1) Smt. RouthuAnitha, W/o Beta Srikanth, age 37 years, Asst. Exe. Engineer, B.R.R. Vamsadhara Project Circle, Srikakulam, R/o S.A.T. Nagar, Thotapalem Road, Thavitayya Cheri, Srikakulam, 2) Sri Panga Ramakrishna, S/o late Kamayya, age 43 years, Jr. Technical Officer, B.R.R. Vamsadhara Project Circle, Srikakulam. R/o Door No. 1-3-31, 1st Ward, Balaga, Srikakulamfrom 15.30 hrs to 2000 hrs on 31.07.2019.

The Surprise Check Party consisting of Sri B.V.S.S.R.Murthy, DSP, ACB and their staff of Srikakulam Range along with mediators left the ACB, office at 02.30 hours in two hired vehicles and reached the vicinity of the office of the Joint Sub Registrar Office, Ranastalam at 3.15 PM.

On reaching the Joint Sub-Registrar's office, Ranasthalam the search party got down from the vehicles and the DSP instructed all the raid party members to observe the happenings in the Registrar's Office by concealing themselves in the public. Accordingly, all the members took vantage positions around the office of the Joint Sub Registrar's Office, Ranasthalam. After observing the proceedings at about 03.30 PM raid was conducted on the said office. The office is located in the Ground floor of the rented building at Devisri Kalyanamandapam Road, Garikapalem, J.R. Puram Panchayat, Ranasthalam Mandal and facing south and consisting of 3 rooms, 1 main hall and verandah and the main hall is being used by SRO and staff while the remaining rooms are being used for keeping records. The office building is surrounded by one pan shop of Sri B. Raja Rao to the East, residential house of Smt. Killi Nuthana to the West, vacant site towards the North and C.C. Road runs from the main road to the village towards South direction.

Contd.,2

On entering into the main hall, DSP found as many as 12 persons in the main hall. Then DSP introduced himself and the raid party members to the inmates of the office and requested them to co-operate during Surprise Check proceedings and accordingly they obliged. First, a person who sat on dais introduced himself as Sri Surumalla Rajeswara Rao, S/o late Sanjeeva Rao, 59 years, Joint Sub-Registrar, Ranasthalam and also introduced his staff as 1) Pyla Jaya, W/o Laxmana Rao, age 49 years, Sr. Asst., O/o Joint Sub Registrar, Ranasthalam (2) Sri Sontyana Rajeev, S/o late Naryana Murthy, age 30 years, Jr. Asst., O/o Joint Sub Registrar, Ranasthalam (3) Sri Bondada Harikrishna, S/o Jeevaratnam, age 30 years, Office Subordinate, O/o Joint Sub-Registrar, Ranasthalam and (4) Smt. Avanapu Santoshi, W/o Syamala Rao, age 32 years, Shroff, O/o Joint Sub Registrar, Ranasthalam and (5) Sri Uddagiri Srinivasa Rao, S/o Kamaraju, age 41 years, unauthorized attender, R/o Yerukonda village, Pusapatirega Mandal, Vizianagaram District who are present in the SRO's hall at the time of surprise check. Whereas the remaining 6 persons introduced themselves as below:

1. Sri Arasada Vijaya Saradhi, S/o late Simhachalam, age 58 years, Document Writer, Sri Venkateswara Colony, Ranasthalam, Srikakulam District. Cell No: 9866784384.
2. Sri Guggilapu Chinna Rao, S/o late Varahalu, age 52 years, Document Writer, Garikapalem, Opp. Cinema Theatre, Ranasthalam, Srikakulam District. Cell No. 8978876737.
3. Sri Rajapathruni Mouleeswara Rao, S/o late Udayabhaskara Rao, age 64 years, Document Writer, Brahmin Street, Ranasthalam, Srikakulam District. Cell No: 9985313092.
4. Sri Patnayakuni Dhanunjaya Rao, S/o late Narasinga Rao, age 25 years, Asst. to Document writers, Sri Venkateswara Colony, Ranasthalam, Srikakulam District. Cell No: 9177699925.
5. Sri Jallepalli Surya Prakasha Rao, S/o Thavitayya, age 40 years, Document Writer, SRO office Road, Ranasthalam, Srikakulam District. Cell No: 9704291268.
6. Sri Meesala Rama Rao, S/o late Sanyasi, age 58 years, Document Writer, Derasim village, Ranasthalam Mandal, Srikakulam District. Cell No: 9705214987.

The DSP instructed the mediators to search the persons of staff of Joint Sub-Registrar and others present in the office with the assistance of the search party. Upon the instructions of the DSP, the mediators with the assistance of search party searched on the following persons and found possession of the amounts as noted against their names.

Then the DSP verified the personal cash declared by the employees in the personal cash register of Joint Sub Registrar office, Ranasthalam.

Sl. No.	Name & Designation of the Employee	Amount Declared in PCR	The amount available with the employee	REMARKS	
				Excess	Less
The staff of Joint Sub Registrar Office, Ranastalam:::					
1.	Sri S. Rajeswara Rao, SRO	395/	395/-	-	-
2.	Smt. P. Jaya, Sr. Asst.,	200/-	200/-	-	-
3.	Sri S. Rajeev, Jr. Asst.,	180/-	180/-	-	-
4.	Smt. A. Santhoshi, Shroff	400/-	400/-	-	-
5.	Sri B. Harikrishna, Office Subordinate	500/	500/-	-	-
6.	Sri U.Srinivasa Rao @ Sharukh Khan, Unauthorized person	---	34,050/-	---	---

Contd.,3

Document writers:					
7.	Sri Arasada Vijaya Saradhi	---	18,000/-	--	--
8.	Sri Guggilapu Chinna Rao	--	---	--	--
9.	Sri Rajapathruni Mouleeswara Rao	--	---	--	--
10.	Sri Patnayakuni Dhanunjaya Rao	--	6,000/-	--	--
11.	Sri Jallepalli Surya Prakasha Rao		6,000/		
12.	Sri Meesala Rama Rao		6,000/		

When the DSP questioned Sri U. Srinivasa Rao @ Sharukh Khan, he stated that he is a native of Yerukondavillage, Pusapatirega Mandal, Vizianagaram District and studied upto Intermediate and has been working as arbitrator between Document Writers and office staff of SRO, Ranasthalam since 10 years and collecting mamools from document writers and public and handing over the same to SRO and their staff on their behalf and doing this work whoever assume charge as SRO, Ranasthalam. Likewise, Sri S. Rajeswara Rao, SRO also allowed him to do the above work. All the SROs, who engaged him gave Rs.6,000/- to him per month and further added that on 31.07.2019 he collected an amount of Rs.34,050/- from the document writers (1) Sivakumar – Rs.12,000/-; Mallibabu – Rs.12,000/-; Chinna Rao – Rs.5,050/-; Mouleeswara Rao – Rs.5,000/- for the registrations and will hand over the same to SRO after closing the office.

Then the DSP seized the amount of Rs.34,050/- from Sri U.Srinivasa Rao, Private Assistant of SRO.

Then the DSP secured the six document writers who were present in the SRO's hall and examined them.

On examination of the above 6 document writers stated in one tone that they used to collect mamools on behalf of SRO and staff of SRO from persons who usually approach to Registrar Office for registrations. After documentation work, they will give the collected amounts to Sri U. Srinivasa Rao @ Sharukh Khan as per the instructions of SROs and as usual on 31.07.2019 also they came to the SRO office to handover the mamools collected from parties to Sri Sharukh Khan as per the instructions of the SRO Sri S. Rajeswara Rao.

On examination, Sri Arasada Vijaya Saradhi, S/o late Simhachalam, age 58 years, Document Writer, Sri Venkateswara Colony, Ranasthalam, Srikakulam District stated that he has been preparing documents for registrations at the SRO office, Ranasthalam for the last 15 years and on 31.07.2019 he collected Rs.18,000/- from the persons who approach for registration of 9 documents and came to handover the same to SRO through his private assistant Sri Srinivasa Rao @ Sharukh Khan and he used to pay mamools to Sri Sharukh Khan upon the instructions of SRO Sri S. Rajeswara Rao.

On examination, Sri Guggilapu Chinna Rao, S/o late Varahalu, age 52 years, Document Writer, Garikapalem, Opp. Cinema Theatre, Ranasthalam, Srikakulam District stated that he has been preparing documents for registrations at the SRO office, Ranasthalam for the last 15 years and on 31.07.2019 he collected Rs.5,050/- from the persons who approach for registration of 2 documents and handed over the same to Sri U. Srinivasa Rao @ Sharukh Khan upon the instructions of the SRO Sri S. Rajeswara Rao.

On examination, Sri Rajapathruni Mouleeswara Rao, S/o late Udayabhaskara Rao, age 64 years, Document Writer, Brahmin Street, Ranasthalam, Srikakulam District stated that he has been preparing documents for registrations at the SRO office, Ranasthalam for the last 5 years and on 31.07.2019 he collected Rs.5,000/- from the persons who came for registration of 2 documents and handed over the same to Sri U. Srinivasa Rao @ Sharukh Khan on the instructions of the SRO Sri S. Rajeswara Rao.

Contd.,4

On examination, Sri Patnayakuni Dhanunjaya Rao, S/o late Narasinga Rao, age 25 years, Asst. to Document writers, Sri Venkateswara Colony, Ranasthalam, Srikakulam District stated that has been assisting to Sri Srinivasa Rao and some other document writers for the last 4years in preparation of documents and added that on 31.07.2019 he presented 3 documents for registration on behalf of Sri Srinivasa Rao and collected Rs.6,000/- from the persons who came for registration of 3 documents and came to handover the same to SRO through his private assistant Sri Srinivasa Rao @ Sharukh Khan and he used to pay mamools to Sri Sharukh Khan on the instructions of SRO Sri S. Rajeswara Rao. Likewise, on 31.07.2019 he handed over amounts of Rs.12,000/- on behalf of Sri Sivakumar and Rs.12,000/- on behalf of Sri Mallibabu, who presented two documents each.

On examination, Sri Jallepalli Surya Prakasha Rao, S/o Thavitayya, age 40 years, Document Writer, SRO office Road, Ranasthalam, Srikakulam District stated that he has been preparing documents for registrations at the SRO office, Ranasthalam for the last 15 years and on 31.07.2019 he collected Rs.6,000/- from the persons who came for registration of 3 documents and came to handover the same to SRO through his private assistant Sri Srinivasa Rao @ Sharukh Khan and he used to pay mamools to Sri Sharukh Khan on the instructions of SRO Sri S.Rajeswara Rao. On examination, Sri Meesala Rama Rao, S/o late Sanyasi, age 58 years, Document Writer, Derasim village, Ranasthalam Mandal, Srikakulam District stated that he has been preparing documents for registrations at the SRO office, Ranasthalam for the last 15 years and on 31.07.2019 he collected Rs.6,000/- from the persons who came for registration of 2 documents and came to handover the same to SRO through his private assistant Sri Srinivasa Rao © Sharukh Khan and he used to pay mamools to Sri Sharukh Khan on the instructions of SRO Sri S. Rajeswara Rao. Then the DSP seized unaccounted amount of Rs.36,000/- from six document writers got Photostat copies of the personal cash declaration register and seized the same.

Then the DSP questioned the Sub Registrar, Sri S. Rajeswara Rao about the presence of document writers in front of his dais, collection of the bribe amounts from the claimants through the document writers and private assistant and the seizure of bribe amounts from the possession of Sri U. Srinivasa Rao @ Sharukh Khan, who was employed by him unauthorizedly. For that he kept silent and did not account for the same and did not give any satisfactory reply.

As per the Circular Memo No.X210708/1994 issued by the office of the Commissioner and Inspector General of Registration and Stamps, A.P., Hyderabad, Dated 30.12.1997 in all cases of surprise check where unaccounted cash is found with the unauthorized persons in the office, the normal presumption shall be that it is the illegal amount obtained as bribe from the parties and the onus of disproving the same will be on the Charged Officer.

Thus, the Government Servant (now retired) by his above mentioned acts has exhibited lack of integrity, devotion to duty and conduct, unbecoming of a Government Servant and thereby contravened Rules 3(1) & 3(2) of APCS (Conduct) Rules, 1964 r/w Rule 9 of A.P. Revised Pension Rules,1980.

CHARGE-II :-

That the Government Servant (now retired) Joint Sub Registrar, Ranasthalam connived with other officials and allowed document writers for doing illegal acts i.e., collecting mamools from the public who came for registration etc and an amount of Rs.36,000/- was seized from the possession of the document writers, who were found inside of the Sub-Registrar office which was collected by them from the general public who came for registration of their properties and the document writers used to hand over the collected mamools to Sri U. Srinivasa Rao @ Sharukh Khan, Private Assistant of SRO to hand over the same to Sub – Registrar and his staff and the above same was found by the ACB officials on the date of surprise check proceedings conducted on 31.07.2019 which was commenced from 3.30 P.M. to concluded at 8 P.M. at the office of Joint Sub Registrar, Ranasthalam, Srikakulam District.

Contd.,5

FACTS AND EVIDENCE:

On credible information that the Joint Sub-Registrar and the staff of the office of Joint Sub Registrar, Ranasthalam were indulging in corrupt practices by way of collecting bribe mamools (bribe) as commissions from the persons, who approach for registration in their office through the document writers viz., Sri Arasada Vijaya Saradhi, Sri Guggilapu Chinna Rao, Sri Rajapathruni Mouleeswara Rao, Sri Patnayakuni Dhanunjaya Rao, Sri Jallepalli Surya Prakasha Rao, Sri Meesala Rama Rao and others,on 31.07.2019, the ACB officials of Srikakulam Range conducted a surprise check of the Joint Sub-registrar office, Ranastalam was conducted on the O/o Joint Sub Registrar, Ranasthalam on 31.07.2019.

During the surprise check, when the surprise check party entered into the SRO office, as many as 12 persons were found in the main hall. Then DSP introduced himself and the raid party members to the inmates of the office and requested them to co-operate during Surprise Check proceedings and accordingly they obliged. First, a person who sat on dais introduced himself as Sri Surumalla Rajeswara Rao, S/o late Sanjeeva Rao, 59 years, Joint Sub-Registrar, Ranasthalam and also introduced his staff as 1) Pyla Jaya, W/o Laxmana Rao, age 49 years, Sr. Asst., O/o Joint Sub Registrar, Ranasthalam (2) Sri Sontyana Rajeev, S/o late Naryana Murthy, age 30 years, Jr. Asst., O/o Joint Sub Registrar, Ranasthalam (3) Sri Bondada Harikrishna, S/o Jeevaratnam, age 30 years, Office Subordinate, O/o Joint Sub-Registrar, Ranasthalam and (4) Smt. Avanapu Santoshi, W/o Syamala Rao, age 32 years, Shroff, O/o Joint Sub Registrar, Ranasthalam and (5) Sri Uddagiri Srinivasa Rao, S/o Kamaraju, age 41 years, unauthorized Aattender, R/o Yerukonda village, Pusapatirega Mandal, Vizianagaram District who are present in the SRO's hall at the time of surprise check. Whereas the remaining 6 persons introduced themselves as below:

1. Sri Arasada Vijaya Saradhi, S/o late Simhachalam, age 58 years, Document Writer, Sri Venkateswara Colony, Ranasthalam, Srikakulam District. Cell No: 9866784384.
2. Sri Guggilapu Chinna Rao, S/o late Varahalu, age 52 years, Document Writer, Garikapalem, Opp. Cinema Theatre, Ranasthalam, Srikakulam District. Cell No. 8978876737.
3. Sri Rajapathruni Mouleeswara Rao, S/o late Udayabhaskara Rao, age 64 years, Document Writer, Brahmin Street, Ranasthalam, Srikakulam District. Cell No: 9985313092.
4. Sri Patnayakuni Dhanunjaya Rao, S/o late Narasinga Rao, age 25 years, Asst. to Document writers, Sri Venkateswara Colony, Ranasthalam, Srikakulam District. Cell No: 9177699925.
5. Sri Jallepalli Surya Prakasha Rao, S/o Thavitayya, age 40 years, Document Writer, SRO office Road, Ranasthalam, Srikakulam District. Cell No: 9704291268.
6. Sri Meesala Rama Rao, S/o late Sanyasi, age 58 years, Document Writer, Derasim village, Ranasthalam Mandal, Srikakulam District. Cell No: 9705214987.

The DSP instructed the mediators to search the persons of staff of Joint Sub-Registrar and others present in the office with the assistance of the search party. Upon the instructions of the DSP, the mediators with the assistance of search party searched on the following persons and found possession of the amounts as noted against their names.

Then the DSP verified the personal cash declared by the employees in the personal cash register of Joint Sub Registrar office, Ranasthalam.

Sl. No.	Name & Designation of the Employee	Amount Declared in PCR	The amount available with the employee	REMARKS	
				Excess	Less
The staff of Joint Sub Registrar Office, Ranastalam:::					
1.	Sri S. Rajeswara Rao, SRO	395/	395/-	-	-
2.	Smt. P. Jaya, Sr. Asst.,	200/-	200/-	-	-
3.	Sri S. Rajeev, Jr. Asst.,	180/-	180/-	-	-

Contd.,6

4.	Smt. A. Santhoshi, Shroff	400/-	400/-	-	-
5.	Sri B. Harikrishna, Office Subordinate	500/	500/-	-	-
6.	Sri U.Srinivasa Rao @ Sharukh Khan, Unauthorized person	---	34,050/-	---	---
Document writers:					
7.	Sri Arasada Vijaya Saradhi	---	18,000/-	--	--
8.	Sri Guggilapu Chinna Rao	--	---	--	--
9.	Sri Rajapathruni Mouleeswara Rao	--	---	--	--
10.	Sri Patnayakuni Dhanunjaya Rao	--	6,000/-	--	--
11.	Sri Jallepalli Surya Prakasha Rao		6,000/		
12.	Sri Meesala Rama Rao		6,000/		

When the DSP questioned Sri U. Srinivasa Rao @ Sharukh Khan, he stated that he is a native of YerukondaVillage, Pusapatirega Mandal, Vizianagaram District and studied upto Intermediate and has been working as arbitrator between Document Writers and office staff of SRO, Ranasthalam since 10 years and collecting mamools from document writers and public and handing over the same to SRO and their staff on their behalf and doing this work whoever assume charge as SRO, Ranasthalam. Likewise, Sri S. Rajeswara Rao, SRO also allowed him to do the above work. All the SROs, who engaged him gave Rs.6,000/- to him per month and further added that on 31.07.2019 he collected an amount of Rs.34,050/- from the document writers (1) Sivakumar – Rs.12,000/-; Mallibabu – Rs.12,000/-; Chinna Rao – Rs.5,050/-; Mouleeswara Rao – Rs.5,000/- for the registrations and will hand over the same to SRO after closing the office.

Then the DSP seized the amount of Rs.34,050/- from Sri U.Srinivasa Rao, Private Assistant of SRO.

As per memo No.101/SPL.8/2000-4, dated 17.04.2001 of the General Administration (Special-8) Department, Government of Andhra Pradesh discloses that no manual or any procedure prescribed to engage a private person to perform certain official duties during departmental activity. It is illegal and also amounts to misconduct to indulge in such activities.

As per the Circular Memo No.X210708/1994 issued by the office of the Commissioner and Inspector General of Registration and Stamps, A.P., Hyderabad, Dated 30.12.1997 in all cases of surprise check where unaccounted cash is found with the unauthorized persons in the office, the normal presumption shall be that it is the illegal amount obtained as bribe from the parties and the onus of disproving the same will be on the Charged Officer. Thus, the Government Servant (now retired) by his above mentioned acts has exhibited lack of integrity, devotion to duty and conduct, unbecoming of a Government Servant and thereby contravened Rules 3(1) & 3(2) of APCS (Conduct) Rules, 1964 r/w Rule 9 of A.P. Revised Pension Rules,1980.

CHARGE-III:-

That the Government Servant (now retired) unauthorizedly employed one person Sri U. Srinivasa Rao @ Sharukh Khan, to work in his office and entrusted Sri U. Srinivasa Rao @ Sharukh Khan, to collect mamools on his behalf from document writers, who collect the same from the persons who come to Registrar Office for registrations and etc works, without any permission from the concerned authorities and the above same was found by the ACB officials on the date of surprise check proceedings conducted on 31.07.2019 which was commenced from 3.30 P.M. to concluded at 8 P.M. at the office of Joint Sub Registrar, Ranasthalam, Srikakulam District.

Contd.,7

Facts and Evidence:

On credible information that the Joint Sub-Registrar and the staff of the office of Joint Sub Registrar, Ranasthalam were indulging in corrupt practices by way of collecting bribe mamools (bribe) as commissions from the persons, who approach for registration in their office through the document writers viz., Sri Arasada Vijaya Saradhi, Sri Guggilapu Chinna Rao, Sri Rajapathruni Mouleeswara Rao, Sri Patnayakuni Dhanunjaya Rao, Sri Jallepalli Surya Prakasha Rao, Sri Meesala Rama Rao and others, on 31.07.2019, the ACB officials of Srikakulam Range conducted a surprise check of the Joint Sub-registrar office, Ranastalam was conducted on the O/o Joint Sub Registrar, Ranasthalam on 31.07.2019.

During the surprise check, when the surprise check party entered into the SRO office, as many as 12 persons were found in the main hall. Then DSP introduced himself and the raid party members to the inmates of the office and requested them to co-operate during Surprise Check proceedings and accordingly they obliged. First, a person who sat on dais introduced himself as Sri Surumalla Rajeswara Rao, S/o late Sanjeeva Rao, 59 years, Joint Sub-Registrar, Ranasthalam and also introduced his staff as 1) Pyla Jaya, W/o Laxmana Rao, age 49 years, Sr. Asst., O/o Joint Sub Registrar, Ranasthalam (2) Sri Sontyana Rajeev, S/o late Naryana Murthy, age 30 years, Jr. Asst., O/o Joint Sub Registrar, Ranasthalam (3) Sri Bondada Harikrishna, S/o Jeevaratnam, age 30 years, Office Subordinate, O/o Joint Sub-Registrar, Ranasthalam and (4) Smt. Avanapu Santoshi, W/o Syamala Rao, age 32 years, Shroff, O/o Joint Sub Registrar, Ranasthalam and (5) Sri Uddagiri Srinivasa Rao, S/o Kamaraju, age 41 years, unauthorized Attender, R/o Yerukonda village, Pusapatirega Mandal, Vizianagaram District who are present in the SRO's hall at the time of surprise check. Whereas the remaining 6 persons introduced themselves as below:

1. Sri Arasada Vijaya Saradhi, S/o late Simhachalam, age 58 years, Document Writer, Sri Venkateswara Colony, Ranasthalam, Srikakulam District. Cell No: 9866784384.
2. Sri Guggilapu Chinna Rao, S/o late Varahalu, age 52 years, Document Writer, Garikapalem, Opp. Cinema Theatre, Ranasthalam, Srikakulam District. Cell No. 8978876737.
3. Sri Rajapathruni Mouleeswara Rao, S/o late Udayabhaskara Rao, age 64 years, Document Writer, Brahmin Street, Ranasthalam, Srikakulam District. Cell No: 9985313092.
4. Sri Patnayakuni Dhanunjaya Rao, S/o late Narasinga Rao, age 25 years, Asst. to Document writers, Sri Venkateswara Colony, Ranasthalam, Srikakulam District. Cell No: 9177699925.
5. Sri Jallepalli Surya Prakasha Rao, S/o Thavitayya, age 40 years, Document Writer, SRO office Road, Ranasthalam, Srikakulam District. Cell No: 9704291268.
6. Sri Meesala Rama Rao, S/o late Sanyasi, age 58 years, Document Writer, Derasim village, Ranasthalam Mandal, Srikakulam District. Cell No: 9705214987.

The DSP instructed the mediators to search the persons of staff of Joint Sub-Registrar and others present in the office with the assistance of the search party. Upon the instructions of the DSP, the mediators with the assistance of search party searched on the following persons and found possession of the amounts as noted against their names.

Then the DSP verified the personal cash declared by the employees in the personal cash register of Joint Sub Registrar office, Ranasthalam.

Sl. No.	Name & Designation of the Employee	Amount Declared in PCR	The amount available with the employee	REMARKS	
				Excess	Less
The staff of Joint Sub Registrar Office, Ranastalam:::					
1.	Sri S. Rajeswara Rao, SRO	395/	395/-	-	-
2.	Smt. P. Jaya, Sr. Asst.,	200/-	200/-	-	-

Contd.,8

3.	Sri S. Rajeev, Jr. Asst.,	180/-	180/-	-	-
4.	Smt. A. Santhoshi, Shroff	400/-	400/-	-	-
5.	Sri B. Harikrishna, Office Subordinate	500/	500/-	-	-
6.	Sri U.Srinivasa Rao @ Sharukh Khan, Unauthorized person	---	34,050/-	---	---
Document writers:					
7.	Sri Arasada Vijaya Saradhi	---	18,000/-	--	--
8.	Sri Guggilapu Chinna Rao	--	---	--	--
9.	Sri Rajapathruni Mouleeswara Rao	--	---	--	--
10.	Sri Patnayakuni Dhanunjaya Rao	--	6,000/-	--	--
11.	Sri Jallepalli Surya Prakasha Rao		6,000/		
12.	Sri Meesala Rama Rao		6,000/		

When the DSP questioned Sri U. Srinivasa Rao @ Sharukh Khan, he stated that he is a native of Yerukonda Village, Pusapatirega Mandal, Vizianagaram District and studied upto Intermediate and has been working as arbitrator between Document Writers and office staff of SRO, Ranasthalam since 10 years and collecting mamools from document writers and public and handing over the same to SRO and their staff on their behalf and doing this work whoever assume charge as SRO, Ranasthalam. Likewise, Sri S. Rajeswara Rao, SRO also allowed him to do the above work. All the SROs, who engaged him gave Rs.6,000/- to him per month and further added that on 31.07.2019 he collected an amount of Rs.34,050/- from the document writers (1) Sivakumar – Rs.12,000/-; Mallibabu – Rs.12,000/-; Chinna Rao – Rs.5,050/-; Mouleeswara Rao – Rs.5,000/- for the registrations and will hand over the same to SRO after closing the office.

Then the DSP seized the amount of Rs.34,050/- from Sri U.Srinivasa Rao, Private Assistant of SRO.

Smt. P.G.S.Kalyani, B.Tech, Deputy Inspector General (FAC), Registration and Stamps, Vizianagaram through her Lr.No E1/466/2019, Dt 14.08.2019 of the District Registrar, Srikakulam informed that their office has not given any permission to the Sub-Registrar, Ranasthalam to engage private persons to work in Sub Registrar officer, Ranasthalam and no such orders were issued to the Sub Registrar, Ranasthalam.

As per memo No.101/SPL.8/2000-4, dated 17.04.2001 of the General Administration (Special-8) Department, Government of Andhra Pradesh discloses that no manual or any procedure prescribed to engage a private person to perform certain official duties during departmental activity. It is illegal and also amounts to misconduct to indulge in such activities.

As per the Circular Memo No.X210708/1994 issued by the office of the Commissioner and Inspector General of Registration and Stamps, A.P., Hyderabad, Dated 30.12.1997 in all cases of surprise check where unaccounted cash is found with the unauthorized persons in the office, the normal presumption shall be that it is the illegal amount obtained as bribe from the parties and the onus of disproving the same will be on the Charged Officer.

Thus, the Government Servant (now retired) Sri Surumalla Rajeswara Rao, S/o late Sanjeeva Rao by his above mentioned acts exhibited lack of devotion to duty, failed to maintain integrity, behaved in a manner unbecoming of a Government Servant and brought down the prestige of the Government and thereby violated / contravened Rule 3(1) & (2) of A.P. Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1964 r/w Rule 9 of AP Revised Pension Rules, 1980.

Contd.,9

Thus, the Government Servant (now retired) Sri Surumalla Rajeswara Rao, S/o late Sanjeeva Rao, 59 years, Joint Sub Registrar, Ranasthalam, Srikakulam District (Name and designation of the Government Servant to be changed accordingly) rendered himself for regular departmental enquiry for major penalty under Rule 20 of APCS (CC&A) Rules, 1991.

RAJAT BHARGAVA
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

//FORWARDED:: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER

ANNEXURE –III

LIST OF DOCUMENTS IN SUPPORT OF ARTICLE OF CHARGE FRAMED AGAINST SRI SURUMALLA RAJESWARA RAO, JOINT SUB REGISTRAR, RANASTHALAM, SRIKAKULAM DISTRICT IN 01/SC-ACB/SKL/2019 OF ACB, SRIKAKULAM RANGE.

1. Surprise Check proceedings dated 31.07.2019, drafted at the office of SRO, Srikakulam in SC.N.1/SC-ACB/SKL/2019.
   It shows the surprise check proceedings, seizure of illegal amounts and seizure of registers and documents.
2. ATTENDANCE REGISTER:
   It shows that all the staff has attended their duties on the date of the surprise check i.e., on 31.07.2019.
3. Lr. No. E1/481/2019, Dated 17.08.2019 of the Deputy Inspector General, Registration and stamps, Vizianagaram.
   It shows the procedural aspects in the registration of properties, records to be maintained in the Sub Registrar Office, working of private persons in the office of SRO, Ranasthalam amounts to be paid by the parties for registration of properties and prohibition of private persons in the SRO office.
4. Statements of the witnesses 3 to 13. (mentioned in oral evidence)
5. Memo No. 101/SPL.8/2000-4, Dated 17.04.2001 of the General Administration (Special-8) Department.
   As per memo No.101/SPL.8/2000-4, dated 17.04.2001 of the General Administration (Special-8) Department, Government of Andhra Pradesh discloses that no manual or any procedure prescribed to engage a private person to perform certain official duties during departmental activity. It is illegal and also amounts to misconduct to indulge in such activities.
6. Circular Memo No.X210708/1994 issued by the office of the Commissioner and Inspector General of Registration and Stamps, A.P., Hyderabad, Dated 30.12.1997.
   As per the said memo in all cases of surprise check where unaccounted cash is found with the unauthorized persons in the office, the normal presumption shall be that it is the illegal amount obtained as bribe from the parties and the onus of disproving the same will be on the Charged Officer.

RAJAT BHARGAVA
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

//FORWARDED:: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER

ANNEXURE-IV

LIST OF WITNESSESS IN SUPPORT OF ARTICLE OF CHARGE FRAMED AGAINST SRI SURUMALLA RAJESWARA RAO, JOINT SUB REGISTRAR, RANASTHALAM, SRIKAKULAM DISTRICT IN 01/SC-ACB/SKL/2019 OF ACB, SRIKAKULAM RANGE.

1. Smt. Routhu Anitha, Asst. Exe. Engineer, B.R.R. Vamsadhara Project Circle, Srikakulam.

   She is the mediator-1 and she speaks about the surprise check proceedings and seizure of the illegal amount from the document writes and from the possession of Sri U. Srinivasa Rao @ Sharukh Khan who was employed by SRO, Ranasthalam unauthorizedly in the office of Joint Sub Registrar, Ranasthalam.

2. Sri Panga Ramakrishna, Jr. Technical Officer, B.R.R. Vamsadhara Project Circle, Srikakulam.

   He is the mediator-2 and he speaks about the surprise check proceedings and seizure of the illegal amount from the document writes and from the possession of Sri U.Srinivasa Rao @ Sharukh Khan who was employed by SRO, Ranasthalam unauthorizedly in the office of Joint Sub Registrar, Ranastalam, etc facts.

3. Sri Arasada Vijaya Saradhi, S/o late Simhachalam, age 58 years, Document Writer, Sri Venkateswara Colony, Ranasthalam.

   He is the document writer. He further stated that on 31.07.2019 he came to the Joint Sub Registrar Office and presented 09 documents and collected mamools of Rs.18,000/- from the purchasers of the properties on behalf of SRO Sri Rajeswara Rao and came to SRO office to hand over the same to Sri Srinivasa Rao @ Sharukh Khan who is a private assistant to SRO and so saying, when the ACB officials asked then he produced a wad of currency notes of Rs.18,000/- from his shirt pocket, etc facts.

4. Sri Guggilapu Chinna Rao, S/o late Varahalu, age 52 years, Document Writer, Garikapalem, Opp.Cinema Theatre, Ranasthalam.

   He is the document writer and further stated that on 31.07.2019 he presented 02 documents and collected mamools of Rs.5,050/- from the purchasers of the properties on behalf of SRO Sri S.Rajeswara Rao and came to SRO office and handed over the same to Sri U.Srinivasa Rao, @ Sharukh Khan who is a private assistant to SRO, Sri S.Rajeswara Rao, upon the instructions of SRO, etc facts.

5. Sri Rajapathruni Mouleeswara Rao, S/o late Udayabhaskara Rao, age 64 Years, Document Writer, Brahmin Street, Ranasthalam.

   He is the document writer and further stated that on 31.07.2019 he presented 02 documents and collected mamools of Rs.5,000/- from the purchasers of the properties on behalf of SRO Sri S. Rajeswara Rao and came to SRO office and handed over the same to Sri U. Srinivasa Rao @ Sharukh khan who is a private assistant to SRO, upon the instructions of SRO, etc facts.

6. Sri Patnayakuni Dhanunjaya Rao, S/o late Narasinga Rao, age 25 years, Asst. to Document writers, Sri Venkateswara Colony, Ranasthalam.

   He is Assistant Document writer to Sri Srinivasa Rao and some other document writer and further stated that on 31.07.2019 he presented 3 documents for registration on behalf of Sri Srinivasa Rao and collected Rs.6,000/- from the purchasers of the properties on behalf of SRO Sri S.Rajeswara Rao and came to SRO office to hand over the same to Sri U.Srinivasa Rao @ Sharukh khan upon the instructions of SRO, Ranastalam. Likewise, on the date of the check, he handed over amounts of Rs.12,000/- on behalf of Sri Sivakumar and Rs.12,000/- on behalf of Sri Mallibabu, who presented two documents each etc facts.

7. Sri Jallepalli Surya Prakasha Rao, S/o Thavitayya, age 40 years, Document Writer, SRO office Road, Ranasthalam.

   He is document writer at SRO office Ranasthalam. He further stated that on 31.07.2019 he presented 03 documents and collected mamools of Rs.6,000/- from the purchasers of the properties on behalf of SRO Sri S.Rajeswara Rao and came to SRO office to hand over the same to Sri U.Srinivasa Rao @ Sharukh Khan who is a private assistant to SRO, on the instructions of SRO etc facts.

8. Sri Meesala Rama Rao, S/o late Sanyasi, age 58 years, Document Writer, Derasim village, Ranasthalam Mandal.

Contd.,2

He is a document writer at SRO office Ranasthalam. He further stated that on 31.07.2019 he presented 2 documents and collected mamools of Rs.6,000/- for the purchasers of the properties on behalf of SRO Sri S. Rajeswara Rao and came to SRO office to hand over the same to Sri U. Srinivasa Rao @ Sharukh Khan who is a private assistant to SRO, on the instructions of SRO, etc facts.

9. Smt. TeedaBebi, w/o Prasada Rao, Age 35 years, Ravada Madhura Lankapeta village, Ranasthalam Mandal, Srikakulam Dist.

Her husband got registered a vacant site in her name as gift deed vide Doc.No 2749/2019 dated 31.07.2019.2019 of SRO, Ranasthalam and paid an amount of Rs.2000/- as a bribe to the SRO, Ranasthalam through their document writer Rajapatruni Mouleeswara Rao and one U.Srinivasa Rao @ Sharukh Khan who is a private assistant to SRO, Ranasthalam, etc facts.

10. Smt. Baggam Sarada, w/o Balaramaswamy, Age 53 years, Jaganadhapuram village, Ranasthalam Mandal, Srikakulam Dist.

She purchased a vacant site in her name for an amount of Rs.6,09,000/- and got it registered to vide Doc. No. 2753/2019 dated 31.07.2019 of SRO, Ranasthalam and that she paid an amount of Rs.3,000/- as a bribe to the SRO, Ranasthalam through their document writer Rajapatruni Mouleeswara Rao and U.Srinivasa Rao @ Sharukh Khan who is a private assistant to SRO, Ranasthalam, etc facts.

11. Smt. Basva Parvathi, W/o Suribabu, Age 43 years, Kocherla village, Ranasthalam Mandal, Srikakulam District.

She purchased land in his name for Rs.1,18,00/- and got it registered to vide Doc No. 2755/2019 dated 31.07.2019 of SRO, Ranasthalam. She speaks that she has paid an amount of Rs.1500/- as a bribe to the SRO, Ranasthalam through their document writer Guggilapu Chinna Rao and U. Sharukh Khan who is a private assistant to SRO, Ranasthalam, etc facts.

12. Sri Gundu Chinna Rao, s/o late Chinna Satyam, Age 58 years, Narasimha Gopalapuram village, Ranasthalam Mandal.

He purchased land in his name for Rs.1,14,000/- and got it registered to vide Doc No. 2759/2019 dated 31.07.2019 of SRO, Ranasthalam. He speaks that he has paid an amount of Rs.2,000/- as a bribe to the SRO, Ranasthalam through their document writer Meesala Rama Rao and U.Srinivasa Rao @ Sharukh Khan who is a private assistant to SRO, Ranasthalam, etc facts.

13. Sri Reddy Satyanarayana, District Registrar, Srikakulam.

He stated that Vendors and Vendees (Executants and Claimants) in case of sale deeds and parties who execute the documents along with two identified witnesses (and the presentant other than executants in rare cases) in respect of documents other than sale deeds have to attend before the Registering Officer for registration of documents. He further stated that SRO Ranasthalam is not permitted to engage any private person and no such order of engaging private person was given from his office and etc facts.

14. Smt. P.G.S.Kalyani, Dy. Inspector General, Registration & Stamps, Vizianagaram.

She speaks about furnishing the procedural aspects in registration of properties, service particulars of the employees of Sub Registrar Office, Ranasthalam and other information through her Lr.No. E1/466/2019, Dt. 14.08.2019 and specifically stated that SRO Ranasthalam is not permitted to engage any private person and no such Order of engaging private person was given either by her Office or from District Registrar's Office and etc., facts.

15. Sri B.V.S.S.R.Murthy, DSP, ACB, Srikakulam.

He speaks about the surprise check proceedings dated 31.07.2019 along with violation of Rules of Government Servant etc., facts.

16. Sri B.Hari, Inspector, ACB, Srikakulam.

To speak about the participation along with DSP at the time of surprise check enquiry, submitting DACs etc., facts.

RAJAT BHARGAVA
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

//FORWARDED:: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER